



State of California  
The Natural Resources Agency  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	Mid-Klamath Watershed Council Forest Health Grants: Klamath National Forest Prescribed Fire and Vegetation Management Projects	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	Klamath National Forest, Happy Camp & Oak Knoll Ranger Districts: Township (T).16N. Range (R) 7E., Sections 1, 2, 11-14 and 24; T.17N.R.7 E., Sections 1, 2, 11-13, 24, 25, 35, and 36; T.18N.R.7E., 1-3, 10-15, 22-26, 35 and 36; T.19N.R.7E., Sections 33-36; T16N.R.8E., Sections 4-6, 7-9, 15-18, 19-20 and 28-30; T17N.R.8E., Sections 4-6, 7-9, 16-21, and 28-33; T18N.R.8E., Sections 7-9, 16-21, and 28-33; Humboldt Meridian.	<b>COUNTY</b> Siskiyou
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)	
<b>CONTACT</b>	Jamie Sammut, Staff Counsel	
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### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

CAL FIRE would provide funding to the Mid-Klamath Watershed Council to conduct fuel reduction treatments, including hand cut/ hand pile, mechanical thinning & piling, and invasive plant removal, as well as Cultural and prescribed burns, which include understory burn prep, pile & understory burning on USFS lands. These treatments will reduce wildfire risks to local resources and community members, promote native plant and wildlife species, and improve forest resiliency.

### EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type and Section: Class
- Statutory Exemption (state code section): Public Resources Code Section 4799.05(d)(1)
- Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

### REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

CEQA does not apply to fuel reduction projects undertaken on federal lands to reduce the risk of high severity wildfire that have been reviewed under the NEPA, if the primary role of a state or local agency is providing funding or staffing for those projects. The proposed project was reviewed in its entirety under five NEPA documents: 1) Happy Camp Fire Protection Commercial Thinning (Phase 2) Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact signed on 5/22/07; 2) Thom-Seider Vegetation Management and Fuels Reduction Project Final Environmental Impact Statement (R5-MB-232) and Record of Decision signed on 4/13/2011; 3) Westside Fire Recovery Project Final Environmental Impact Statement (R5-MB-287b) and Record of Decision signed on 2/29/2016; 4) Happy Camp Fire Protection 03 Decision Memo signed on 3/9/04; and 5) Petersburg Pines Restoration Project Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact signed on 8/1/12.



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**DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING**

DocuSigned by:

*John Melvin*  
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10/19/2022

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John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director  
Resource Management  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Date